

*PEABODY EDUCATION FUND.*

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PROCEEDINGS OF THE TRUSTEES

AT THEIR

ANNUAL MEETING,

AT WASHINGTON, FEB. 15, 1870;

*WITH THEIR*

TRIBUTE TO THE MEMORY OF MR. PEABODY, AND THE  
ANNUAL REPORT OF THEIR GENERAL AGENT,  
DR. SEARS.

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CAMBRIDGE:

PRESS OF JOHN WILSON AND SON.

1870.

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# PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

## TRUSTEES OF THE PEABODY EDUCATION FUND,

AT THEIR ANNUAL MEETING AT WASHINGTON,

*Appointed to be held on the third Thursday, being the 20th day of January, 1870, but postponed by adjournment, and held on the 15th day of February, 1870.*

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THE Trustees of the PEABODY EDUCATION FUND met at the Arlington House, Washington, at two o'clock, P.M., February 15, 1870. Present: Hon. ROBERT C. WINTHROP, of Massachusetts; Hon. HAMILTON FISH, of New York; Right Rev. CHARLES P. McILVAINE, of Ohio; Admiral D. G. FARRAGUT, of the United-States Navy; Hon. JOHN H. CLIFFORD, of Massachusetts; Hon. WILLIAM A. GRAHAM, of North Carolina; CHARLES MACALESTER, Esq., of Pennsylvania; GEORGE W. RIGGS, Esq., of Washington; SAMUEL WETMORE, Esq., of New York; GEORGE N. EATON, Esq., of Maryland; and the Rev. Dr. SEARS, of Virginia, the General Agent of the Board.

In the absence of the Secretary (GEORGE PEABODY RUSSELL, Esq.), Dr. SEARS was appointed Secretary *pro tem*.

On taking the chair, the President of the Board (Hon. ROBERT C. WINTHROP) delivered the following address :—

#### ADDRESS OF THE HON. ROBERT C. WINTHROP.

GENTLEMEN OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE PEABODY  
EDUCATION FUND :

When the day of our Annual Meeting was fixed at Baltimore in January of the last year, we were not without some hope that our munificent Founder might be personally present here with us at this meeting ; and we were encouraged in this hope when so many of us met him last summer at the special meeting, which was held at his request, at Newport. But God has ordered it otherwise ; and my first duty, in taking the chair, to-day, is to announce to the Board, officially, an event, of which you are all, as individuals, but too well informed.

Mr. Peabody died in London on the 4th of November last ; and his remains, after reposing for a time in Westminster Abbey, have been entombed, agreeably to his own desire, in the cemetery of his native town in Massachusetts.

Our meeting, which was appointed for the 20th of January, has been deferred until now, as you know, in order to allow those of us who were able to do so, to be present at his funeral. Having been called on to deal publicly with his character and general career, on that occasion, I shall leave it to others of our number, to-day, to pay to his memory such tributes of personal gratitude, respect, and affection as they may think appropriate to this meeting.



I may be pardoned, however, if, before inviting such expressions from any of those around me, I pass rapidly in review the proceedings of this Board, so far as we have gone, during the life which has now closed ; for the purpose of recalling to your thoughts all that our lamented friend has done for the great cause which he has committed to our charge, and of communicating to you, almost from his own lips, the hopes and wishes which he cherished to the last in regard to our future course.

The full term of three years has just expired since this Board was originally organized. The letter of Mr. Peabody announcing the endowment and creating the Trust bears date “Washington, Feb. 7, 1867.”

That memorable and noble letter, after referring to “the educational needs of those portions of our beloved and common country which have suffered from the destructive ravages, and the not less disastrous consequences, of civil war,” contained the following passage, which furnishes the key-note of his whole design, and which must ever give a controlling direction to all our proceedings : —

“I feel most deeply, therefore, that it is the duty and privilege of the more favored and wealthy portions of our nation to assist those who are less fortunate ; and, with the wish to discharge, so far as I am able, my own responsibility in this matter, as well as to gratify my desire to aid those to whom I am bound by so many ties of attachment and regard, I give to you, gentlemen, most of whom have been my personal and especial friends, the sum of One Million of Dollars, to be by you and your successors held in trust, and the income thereof used and applied in your discretion for the promotion and encouragement of intellectual, moral, or industrial education among the young of the more destitute portions of the Southern and South-western States of our Union ; my purpose being that the benefits intended shall be distributed among the entire

population, without other distinction than their needs and the opportunities of usefulness to them."

On the day following the date of this letter, ten of our number — whom, at Mr. Peabody's request, I had invited to meet him in this city — assembled at Willard's Hotel; and there, in presence of Mr. Peabody himself, accepted the obligations prescribed by his letter, and inaugurated the work committed to us. Our proceedings on that occasion, however, were purely preliminary and formal.

On the 19th of March following, the Board held their first business meeting, in the city of New York, and devoted four days, in company with Mr. Peabody, to the consideration and adoption of the plans which have since been carried out. Those plans were ultimately embodied in the three following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted by the Board: —

"1. *Resolved*, That, for the present, the promotion of Primary or Common School Education, by such means or agencies as now exist or may need to be created, be the leading object of the Board in the use of the fund placed at its disposal.

"2. *Resolved*, That, in aid of the above general design, and as promotive of the same, the Board will have in view the furtherance of Normal-School Education for the preparation of teachers, as well by the endowment of scholarships in existing Southern institutions, as by the establishing of Normal Schools, and the aiding of such Normal Schools as may now be in operation, in the Southern and South-western States; including such measures as may be feasible, and as experience shall dictate to be expedient, for the promotion of education in the application of Science to the industrial pursuits of human life.

"3. *Resolved*, That a General Agent, of the highest qualifications, be appointed by the Board, to whom shall be intrusted, under an Executive Committee, the whole charge of carrying out the designs of Mr. Peabody in his great gift, under



such resolutions and instructions as the Board shall from time to time adopt."

Under this last resolution, our friend, Dr. Sears, then President of Brown University, Rhode Island, was unanimously appointed the General Agent of the Board; and his letter accepting the appointment bears date the 30th of the same month. With that acceptance, the practical work committed to us may fairly be considered as having commenced.

How extensive and how successful that work has been, can only be ascertained by a careful perusal of Dr. Sears's reports. Three of those reports are already in print, in the published proceedings of the Board, — the first of them presented at the meeting of the Trustees in Richmond, Virginia, on the 21st of January, 1868; the second presented at a meeting of the Trustees in New York, on the 16th of July, 1868; and the third presented at the meeting of the Trustees held at Baltimore, on the 21st of January, 1869.

I may say for myself, gentlemen, — and I am sure I may say for you all, — that we have enjoyed no adequate opportunity for fully appreciating the labors which have thus far been performed, and the results which have thus far been accomplished, by our General Agent, until these three reports, in connection with all the Proceedings of the Board, were recently printed together for the use of the Trustees. And I should be wanting to my own feelings, and to my responsibilities both to the living and the dead, — as the organ at once of Mr. Peabody and of this Board, — if I failed to give some formal and public expression to the gratification, and, I must say, the astonishment, I have experienced, on a deliberate examination of those reports. The Report which is to cover the whole of the past year is still to be presented, and we shall soon have the satisfaction of listening to it. But I could not but feel, as I recently finished a second or a third reading of those which are already in print, that, if they had included a

period twice, or even thrice, that which they do include, they would have afforded ample evidence of extraordinary diligence, of ardent devotion, of consummate practical wisdom, and of signal success.

This, I know, was the feeling of our lamented founder and friend. You all remember, that, on the first day of July last, our Board held a special meeting at Newport, Rhode Island, at the immediate request of Mr. Peabody. He had informed me confidentially, before I took leave of him in London, in the previous summer, that he intended to visit his native country again, God willing, during the present year; and that he should then make a considerable addition to our Fund. He was then strong and hopeful, and had great confidence that he might live at least ten years longer. But his health soon afterwards began to decline; and, as the next spring opened, he was led to entertain serious apprehensions that he might not live even until another year. After a careful consultation with his medical advisers, he suddenly resolved to come over at once, and complete his designs.

On the very day of his arrival in Boston, he informed Dr. Sears, Governor Clifford, and myself, who had met him at the station, and accompanied him to the hospitable home of his friend, Mr. Dana, that the first desire of his heart, and that which he had crossed the Atlantic especially to gratify, was to meet our Board once more, and to increase our means for carrying on the great work in which we were engaged. He met us accordingly at Newport, and added a second Million of dollars to our cash capital, besides adding largely to the deferred securities which he had included in the original donation; all of which, he had the fullest faith, would, at no very distant day, become productive.

In the letter addressed to us, communicating this second princely gift, he used the following language: —

“ I have constantly watched with great interest and careful



attention, the proceedings of your Board, and it is most gratifying to me now to be able to express my warmest thanks, for the interest and zeal you have manifested in maturing and carrying out the designs of my letter of trust, and to assure you of my cordial concurrence in all the steps you have taken.

“At the same time, I must not omit to congratulate you, and all who have at heart the best interests of this educational enterprise, upon your obtaining the highly valuable services of Dr. Sears, as your General Agent, — services valuable, not merely in the organization of schools, and of a system of public education; but in the good effect which his conciliatory and sympathizing course has had, wherever he has met or become associated with the communities of the South, in social or business relations.

“And I beg to take this opportunity of thanking, with all my heart, the people of the South themselves, for the cordial spirit with which they have received the Trust, and for the energetic efforts which they have made, in co-operation with yourselves and Dr. Sears, for carrying out the plans which have been proposed and matured for the diffusion of the blessings of education in their respective States.”

This letter of Mr. Peabody concluded as follows: —

“I do this with the earnest hope and in the sincere trust, that, with God’s blessing upon the gift and upon the deliberations and future action of yourselves and your General Agent, it may enlarge the sphere of usefulness already entered upon, and prove a permanent and lasting boon, not only to the Southern States, but to the whole of our dear country, which I have ever loved so well, but never so much as now in my declining years, and at this time (probably the last occasion I shall ever have to address you) as I look back over the changes and the progress of nearly three-quarters of a century. And I pray that Almighty God will grant to it a future as happy and noble in the intelligence and virtues of its

citizens, as it will be glorious in unexampled power and prosperity."

This second letter has, indeed, proved to be, as he himself anticipated, his last letter to this Board. But more than one of us have enjoyed opportunities, at a still later day, of ascertaining his views and feelings in regard to our course. Our General Agent, as you know, spent many weeks in immediate attendance upon him, at the White Sulphur Springs, in Virginia, during the months of August and September last, and was in daily conversation and consultation with him as to our plans of proceeding. He will not fail to give us the results of those interviews. And I may add, that I was myself with him for several hours of the last three or four days before he finally embarked for Liverpool. And nothing, certainly, could have been more emphatic than his expressions, on these occasions, not only of interest in all we were doing, and of approbation of all we had done, but of earnest desire and confidence that we should adhere firmly to the policy and the plans which had thus far been adopted and pursued.

The Common-School education of the children of the South, "without other distinction than their needs and the opportunities of usefulness to them," and with such incidental encouragement and support of Normal Schools as might secure an adequate supply of competent teachers,—this was the simple but grand design of Mr. Peabody, in establishing the Trust committed to us; and he did not fail to enforce that design upon us in his latest conversations, as well as in his earlier public letters.

He understood perfectly, that this design was not to be carried out by buying any thing, or by building any thing. He saw clearly that the purchase of lots, and the erection of school-houses, for the children of so many States, would exhaust our funds long before our legitimate work could be commenced. He was fully persuaded, that the best way in which



his munificent donation could be employed, under existing circumstances, for the greatest good of the greatest number, was by sending out our Agent, as a sort of Missionary of Education, with all the annual interest of our Fund at his command, to help those who were willing to help themselves; to eke out the insufficiencies of local appropriations; to provide in succession for the immediate temporary wants of particular communities; and, above all that mere money could do, to give them the advantage of the largest information, the highest practical wisdom, and the longest personal experience, in the work of education. He perceived that this was precisely what we had done, and he was more than satisfied.

He did not fail to understand that other kinds of education, besides that of Common Schools, were in need of encouragement in the Southern States. He would gladly have had aid afforded to their Industrial Schools, whenever it were practicable. He knew, too, that there were young men of the highest promise there, whom recent events had deprived of the means of entering on a collegiate course. He was not insensible to their claims. Nor was he without an earnest hope that his example might call forth some benefactor, for that precise exigency, from among those, in the Southern States themselves, whose fortunes had been comparatively unimpaired. But his own Fund he evidently considered as pledged, for the present, to "the young of the entire population," until some change of circumstances should render a change of policy expedient, or until, at the end of thirty years, it should be devoted to other purposes.

And now, gentlemen, having had the benefit of his advice, his approbation, his cheering assistance and encouragement, for these three initiatory years of our work, we are called to enter upon a new term without him. It is a loss which we shall all deeply feel; and which will be felt hardly less deeply, I think, by those who shall succeed us, when our places shall in



turn become vacant. His wise counsels, his lofty and generous aims, his genial and magnetic presence, can never be forgotten by those of us who have personally enjoyed them; nor will they ever fail to inspire us with a determination to discharge the obligations we have assumed at his hands, in the spirit in which they were imposed upon us.

Let us hope that his memory, and his great commission, may be held equally sacred by all who shall come after us; and that the faithful administration of this noble Trust, as long as it shall last, may fulfil all those wishes, which, living and dying, he so ardently cherished, for the prosperity and welfare of the Southern States, and for the harmony and happiness of our whole beloved Country.

At the close of the foregoing address from the chair, a Committee, consisting of Bishop McIlvaine of Ohio, Governor Graham of North Carolina, and Mr. Eaton of Maryland, was appointed to prepare a suitable notice of the death of Mr. Peabody; and this Committee, having retired for that purpose, soon afterwards returned, and reported, through Bishop McILVAINE, their chairman, the following

#### RESOLUTIONS:

1. *Resolved*, That this Board, having been honored by our lamented and beloved friend, the late GEORGE PEABODY, with the trust of the greatest of his great gifts in America, do hereby record our profound veneration for his character and his eminent philanthropy, with our painful sense of the bereavement to his friends, and the loss to his country, occasioned by his death. Participating to the utmost in that appreciation of his worth and works which has united two great countries of kindred blood in such tributes to his memory as were never paid

before to individual merit, it is the privilege of those who knew him in the confidential relations of this great trust, to speak with special testimony of that shining purity of nature, and of that careful consideration of duty to God and man, which gave birth, form, and direction to all his bountiful gifts. We take a mournful pleasure in recording our loving homage to a beneficence as admirable in heart as in deed ; so wise and comprehensive in the choice of its objects ; too thoughtful to be profuse, too maturely planned to be impulsive. Enlarged beyond all sectional and national boundaries, it has created a bond of peace between the North and South of his own land, and between them both, as one nation, and their venerated motherland, which we pray may never be broken. His native country, which he so dearly loved, will proudly remember the son that so adorned her history ; whose institutions of learning and of general education he so enriched, and, after having given her children an example how inflexible integrity and unselfish enterprise may accumulate wealth, added the more-needed lesson, how, in their own lifetime, and by their own hands, it may be wisely and nobly dispensed ; who, by riches so obtained and used, became the benefactor of nations in both hemispheres, and taught the poor in each to call him blessed ; whose most enduring monuments will be found in countless schools for the poor and ignorant, and in cheerful, comfortable homes for the destitute and wretched ; who, amidst all the flattering homage of the great and the applause of the multitude, preserved unblemished, to the end of a long career, the modest simplicity of life and manners inherited in his youth. It was fit that the mortal remains of such a man, having been attended by dignitaries of the Church, and ministers of the Crown of England, to a temporary resting-place assigned them among the sepulchres of the wise and great, should be carried by the joined hands of Great Britain and America, and with their united honors, to the burial he desired, in



his own native village and near the graves of his father and mother.

2. *Resolved*, That for his well-ordered philanthropy and princely munificence he deserves to be ranked among heroes and sages, the inventors of useful arts, and the founders of States, the admitted benefactors of preceding ages, whose labors or contributions have marked eras in the amelioration and progress of mankind; and that his name and memory should be cherished among those of the great Americans who have given renown to their country and done good for its people.

3. *Resolved*, That, in the unexampled tributes which have been paid to the life and character of George Peabody, we rejoice to recognize an emphatic testimony of nations and governments to the greatness of simple virtue and beneficial philanthropy, — especially in the faithful stewardship of riches, — which eminently redounds to their honor, and gives additional weight to a lesson of wisdom and duty for all generations.

4. *Resolved*, That this Board, deprived, by the afflicting dispensation of Divine Providence, of the advice and countenance of our departed friend and founder, will ever remember our gratification on the last occasion of his presence with us, and especially in his satisfaction then expressed with our administration of his trust, not only in assuring words, but by the large addition then made thereto; teaching us to feel more than ever our responsibility to God for the talents committed to our care, while we look for guidance and blessing to Him from whom all good counsels and just works proceed.

The Resolutions having been read, and their adoption moved by Bishop McILVAINE, Governor GRAHAM of North Carolina seconded the motion, and addressed the Board as follows:—



## ADDRESS OF GOVERNOR GRAHAM.

Mr. CHAIRMAN,—Although funeral honors with all the ceremonies at the command of two great nations, and with the cordial approbation of the people of both, have been already paid to the founder of this charity; and although by yourself and others the language of eulogy and panegyric upon his great acts of beneficence has been exhausted,—yet I beg leave to detain you a moment in seconding the Resolutions of the Committee reported by its venerable Chairman.

As the sole member of this Board who happens to be present from the vast region between this capital and the Rio-Grande frontier,—a region for the relief and assistance of whose inhabitants his last and greatest donation was made,—I feel that silence would be an injustice approaching somewhat in criminality to a betrayal of my trust; and that the thousands of parents, and tens of thousands of children,—not a few of them orphans,—in this territory, who are the objects of his bounty, and their sympathizing friends everywhere, would feel that their voice had been suppressed in the general tribute of praise to his memory, and that they had no proper representation in the Board of Trustees.

In their name and in their behalf, regretting the absence of our colleagues, Governor Aiken of South Carolina, and Judge Bradford of Louisiana,—both, as I regret to learn, from ill-health,—I give my hearty assent to the declaration, that, for his well-ordered philanthropy and princely munificence, George Peabody deserves to be ranked with heroes and sages, the inventors of useful arts and the founders of States, those benefactors of our species whose labors or contributions have signalized eras in the amelioration and progress of mankind; and that his name and memory should be cherished among those of the great Americans who have given renown to their country, and done good for its people.

Assuming further to speak in their name, I render thanks to the Governments of Great Britain and the United States, representing the sincere and generous feeling of the people of both countries, and the State and Municipal authorities of Maine, in which his remains first reached the American shore, and of his native Commonwealth of Massachusetts, in which by his patriotic direction they were destined to final repose ; as well as to you, sir, and to the other members of this Board, who attended his final obsequies, for the very appropriate and imposing tributes of respect to his character, which were paid in the long progress from Westminster Abbey to his native town, which furnishes his mausoleum, and shall perpetuate his name. Such offerings do honor to the living as well as to the dead : they but manifest the public and universal sense of his noble charities, and encourage others to like good works.

They tend, moreover, to curb the worse elements of our nature, and to the promotion of peace and good-will among men. And as in his death two great powers of common language and kindred blood have found a common subject of mourning, and, as it were, voyaged abreast and marched hand in hand to his tomb ; so let us trust, that, in the dispensations of Providence, the lately warring sections of our own country will be chastened of angry passions and jealousies, and be joined in new bonds of peace and union by common admiration of his example and gratitude for his beneficence in all future time. If the North shall indulge a commendable pride in the reflection that he was their countryman, the South will venerate him as their neighbor, benefactor, and friend, who poured oil into the wounds of desolating war, and provided for the moral and intellectual wants of their children in the day of impoverishment and affliction.

The PRESIDENT (Mr. Winthrop) then read the following letter from the Hon. William Aiken of South Carolina, in explanation of his absence from the meeting : —



## LETTER OF GOVERNOR AIKEN.

CHARLESTON, S.C., Dec. 23, 1869.

MY DEAR MR. WINTHROP, — As the time for our Annual Meeting in Washington is near at hand, I write to say to you that I shall not be able to attend it. My cough still annoys me, and it would not do for me to go into a colder climate. This will be the first omission, and the one I most regret, as we are to assemble under peculiar and painful circumstances, — so soon after the death of our noble friend.

I saw a great deal of him at the White Sulphur Springs last summer, and I consider it a most important thing for me. I was by his bedside every day during six weeks; and, although he was broken down by disease, I heard from his lips many wise suggestions.

I am really grateful that a kind Providence permitted him to visit a portion of the South before He called him to Himself, and thus allowed him to see how the Southern people appreciated him. It was quite impossible for any one to have received more kind-hearted and affectionate attention. Ah, it was real and true love and admiration of the man!

I shall always regret that he could not come to us in Carolina. It is a feeling of sorrow to all of us. But we hope he is receiving a far higher reward, and if the prayers of the Southern people avail any thing with our blessed Redeemer, he is certainly in His bosom.

Permit me to suggest to the Board of Trustees, that our next meeting should be in July, and at Danvers, where his body is interred. I think this would be a proper respect to his memory, and a most agreeable pilgrimage.

I remain, yours faithfully and sincerely,

WILLIAM AIKEN.

Hon. ROBERT C. WINTHROP.



The Rev. Dr. SEARS, the General Agent of the Board, having been called on by the President, then made the following remarks : —

#### REMARKS OF DR. SEARS.

It is very difficult in a few words to portray such a character as that we are called on to contemplate at this hour. Of the many thoughts clustering around the name we so venerate, utterance can be given to but one or two connected with my personal relations and intercourse with him.

It was at the White Sulphur Springs of Virginia that I saw him most and came to know him best. What was observable here, and witnessed daily for six weeks, was the *deep impression* which he made upon all who were introduced to him, including distinguished gentlemen and ladies from every Southern State. That peculiar look of his, all radiant with goodness; that benignant smile; those few and well-chosen words that always came from the heart, and went directly to the heart, made every sympathizing visitor — and all were such — feel that more character was here revealed in a few moments than they had ever witnessed, in like circumstances, before. Many of them said to me afterwards, that they prized the precious moments of those brief interviews more highly than any other of their lives. The tone of his conversation was so elevated, and yet so frank, simple, and cordial, that the wondering stranger, venturing into his presence with hesitancy, and often with timidity, withdrew with the warm affection of a personal friend.

What attracted the attention, and struck the minds of all, was the deep-seated and strong love which he bore to all mankind. For humanity, in its sufferings, he cherished, in an extraordinary degree, the feelings of a brother, — feelings that could express themselves in nothing short of stupendous deeds

of charity. This all Southern men felt, when he crossed the boundary line, now happily obliterated, between the North and the South, carrying with him all the kindness and good-will of which his great heart was capable, and sojourned among them as a friend; and in all that time never uttering a single word that a sensible man from any part of the country would regret to hear.

His whole bearing, while in Virginia, was in perfect keeping with the memorable words which accompanied the second great donation placed in your hands, — words spoken indeed to only a few, but worthy to be rung in the ears of the nation, — “This I give to the suffering South, for the good of the whole country.” Here we find the key-note to all his words and acts relating to the “Southern Education Fund.” This sentiment will be repeated, by parents and teachers, to every child that lisps his name in the southern part of our Republic, and will prove a bond of union at home like that which now, by the same unparalleled liberality, links the two continents together.

Already have the schools in Southern cities, aided by his Fund, shown their appreciation of his grand charity, by observing the day of his funeral on this continent, twining wreaths around his name on the walls of the school-room, commemorating his deeds and commending his example to the children for imitation.

The Resolutions were unanimously adopted, the members rising in their places; and it was then ordered, that the address of the President, with these resolutions, and the remarks of Governor Graham and Dr. Sears, and the letter of Governor Aiken, be entered upon the records of the Board.

On motion of Governor Clifford, it was voted that the

Board will enter on no other business on this occasion, so that the record of this day may stand as a simple tribute to the memory of our lamented friend and founder.

*Voted* to adjourn until half-past eleven o'clock tomorrow morning.



## PROCEEDINGS OF THE SECOND DAY.

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WEDNESDAY, Feb. 16, 1870.

THE Board met at half-past eleven o'clock, agreeably to adjournment. Present: Hon. Mr. WINTHROP (the Chairman), Bishop McILVAINE, General GRANT (the President of the United States), Admiral FARRAGUT, ex-Governor CLIFFORD, Hon. Mr. EVARTS, ex-Governor GRAHAM, Mr. MACALESTER, Mr. RIGGS, Mr. WETMORE (the Treasurer), Mr. EATON, Mr. GEORGE PEABODY RUSSELL (the Secretary), and Dr. SEARS (the General Agent).

Mr. MACALESTER made the following Report:—

The Committee appointed, at the meeting at Newport, in July last, to receive from Mr. Peabody the bonds and money then given to this Trust, beg leave to report, —

That they received from Mr. James Tinker of New-York (Mr. Peabody's agent) the amount of bonds, as detailed in the schedule which was referred to in the letter of Mr. Peabody, dated June 29, 1869 (together with eight hundred and seventy-five dollars in cash); all of which were deposited in the Fidelity Trust and Safe Deposit Company of Philadelphia, the receipts for which were taken and transmitted to the Treasurer of this Board, in whose possession they now are.

Having thus fulfilled the object of their appointment, the Committee ask to be discharged.

(Signed)

C. MACALESTER.

G. PEABODY RUSSELL.

The above Report was accepted.

The Treasurer presented his Annual Report, which was read and accepted.

Bishop McILVAINE presented the following Resolution, which was adopted : —

*Resolved*, That Mr. Eaton, Mr. Wetmore, and Dr. Sears, the General Agent, be appointed a Committee to revise the regulations heretofore adopted in relation to the drawing, expending, and accounting for moneys of the Education Fund, and to report any change in the same that may be necessary to the next meeting of the Board.

Mr. MACALESTER presented and read letters received by him from various persons, relative to the Mississippi bonds held by the Board.

Remarks were made by Mr. EVARTS and Governor GRAHAM regarding the position of the Board in relation to these Mississippi bonds, when,

On motion of Governor CLIFFORD, seconded by Mr. EVARTS, the whole subject was referred to the Finance Committee, with full powers,

The GENERAL AGENT presented and read his Annual Report, as follows : —

#### REPORT OF GENERAL AGENT.

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE PEABODY EDUCATION FUND :

GENTLEMEN, — Various circumstances have conspired to modify the course of my official duties during the past year. Having occasion to visit Washington soon after our last Annual



Meeting, I found there so large a number of the prominent men from almost all the Southern States, that I could accomplish more preliminary consultation by remaining there for a time, than by proceeding at once to the South. I accordingly remained there for several weeks, and eagerly availed myself of this opportunity.

At a later period, I visited Boston on business, and, while there, received intelligence that Mr. Peabody would soon embark for this country. Knowing the object of his visit, I felt it incumbent on me to await his arrival, and confer with him about the condition and wants of the South in regard to Education. The Chairman of the Trustees concurred in this opinion, more especially as he had already contemplated the necessity of the special meeting of the Board which was afterwards held at Newport.

No sooner had Mr. Peabody arrived, than it appeared that my presence was quite necessary in order to give him the information which he so much desired. The results of the conference which our munificent friend held with such of our number as were able to meet him, as well as with myself, are well known to you all.

When he decided to pass the hot months of the summer at the Virginia Springs, it seemed eminently proper that I should accept his invitation to accompany him, that we might together make the acquaintance of the influential men, who, from almost every Southern State, spent a portion of the season at that place of resort. It may safely be said that nothing has contributed more to the cordial good feeling that now exists throughout the South towards the Trustees and the great work in which they are engaged than this brief sojourn of Mr. Peabody among the people whom he has sought to benefit. In no other way, certainly, could your General Agent have been brought into communication with leading Southern men under circumstances so advantageous. The influence of Mr. Peabody's visit to Virginia was enhanced by the presence of



your Secretary, Mr. George Peabody Russell, and, for a part of the time, of Governor Aiken also. The happy effect of this social intercourse has been sensibly felt by your Agent from that time to the present. Indeed, any one who represents the interests of the Peabody Education Fund has now an acknowledged claim to the most favorable and friendly consideration of the Southern people, on account of the love and reverence universally felt for its illustrious Founder, and by none more deeply felt than by those of the recipients of his bounty, who had the happiness to see his face and take his hand during his visit in Virginia.

The amount of correspondence has been so increased during the past year, and so many new questions have arisen respecting our general policy, that it has been necessary to devote to this branch of my work much more time than ever before. Not only has the business with many of the cities and towns heretofore visited been conducted chiefly by letter, but many new applications for aid have come through the written communications, and with the recommendations of experienced and trustworthy men who have consented to act for us, gratuitously, as Local Agents, making personal examination on the spot, and reporting to me. Besides, owing to unforeseen changes in the amount of the income at our disposal, it has twice been necessary to alter the whole scale of our expenditure, and to make new adjustments with the various Public Schools assisted by us in eleven States. The Board need hardly be reminded that the power of expending any portion of the principal of our Fund expired at the end of two years from the date of the Instrument of Trust. It was the embarrassment occasioned by the necessity of reducing the scale of our operations to correspond with this great reduction of the means annually at our disposal, and the depressing effect produced in all the Southern States by the announcement of this fact, which, when made known to Mr. Peabody, induced him to make his second magnificent donation without further delay. But as such a result

could not be anticipated, there was no alternative for your General Agent but to proceed in the work of retrenchment. When this work was nearly completed, Mr. Peabody's unexpected visit to this country, and his inquiries into the actual condition and prospect of the Schools supported, in part, by his bounty, followed by his splendid act of July 1st, consequent upon these inquiries, put an entirely new face upon our affairs. Still, pleasant as was the privilege of cheering the hearts and reviving the hopes of a whole people, and of awakening their enterprise anew, it was no light task to devise and adopt a third plan of operations, differing materially both from the first and the second, and to adjust and communicate the details of this plan to each locality concerned. It is not, however, too much to say, that this second grand act of philanthropy, on the part of Mr. Peabody, has produced an effect upon the sentiments of the Southern people even greater than the first, while it has rendered the permanent administration of his gifts both pleasant and comparatively easy.

As the meeting of the State Teachers' Association of Tennessee, and the opening of the Legislature, were about to occur at Nashville at the same time, I was invited and urged by various parties to be present, and to deliver an address to both bodies on the subject of Public Schools. I did not hesitate to comply with this request. It was highly important to secure the influence of the one, and the action of the other, in favor of free schools at this crisis of affairs in that State. The result of these and other efforts in behalf of popular education in Tennessee are yet to be learned.

The Association of Teachers in Georgia had appointed an able committee to draw up a plan of public instruction to be submitted to the Legislature of that State, and invited me to meet with them at Macon, November 17th, when that committee would report. The meeting was harmonious; and, after a free discussion of all the important points of the plan reported, and the acceptance of such modifications as I sug-



gested, the report was unanimously adopted, and placed in the hands of a special committee with instructions to present it to a committee of the Legislature and advocate its adoption. It was interesting to observe the progress on the subject of Public Schools which had been made by this Association during a period of two years. The study of the subject by the committee in the preparation of their elaborate report, and the discussions that arose in the committee, in the Association, and in the newspapers, produced a change of public sentiment that cannot fail to do much good. This particular case only confirms the general principle, that wherever the people will take the trouble to look into the subject, in its length and breadth, the issue will always be the same, — the advocacy of a system of public instruction, in place of the unreliable, inefficient, expensive, and partial provision for the education of the young in private schools.

It was the wish of Mr. Peabody that I should take an early opportunity to visit Texas. I accordingly made a journey to that State in December. The present is a time of great interest to Texas in respect to all that relates to its social and moral condition.

The tide of emigration into that territory is constantly swelling. While I was there, every steamer that arrived was crowded with emigrants. They come from all the Gulf States, particularly from Georgia and Alabama, from the Northern and Western States, and from almost every part of Europe. Of foreign emigrants, the Germans are most numerous. Large communities of them are settling in the western part of the State, in the vicinity of San Antonio and Austin. The towns of Fredericksburg and New Braunfels are almost wholly German.

The rich bottom-lands along the rivers of South-eastern Texas furnish the best of cotton-plantations, where there will naturally be a large colored population.

The prairie-country farther inland, toward the centre of the



State, and the "wheat-region" lying to the north of it, are the localities which the emigrants, coming from other States, generally select for their settlements. Here, in the new forms of industry adopted since the war, there seems to be the greatest activity; and the prospect is, that the population in this part of the State will become dense, inasmuch as many new towns are already springing up there. Indeed, with the exception of Galveston, most of the large towns of the State are spread over this territory. It is to these towns that we shall at present need to direct our chief attention,—without, however, overlooking any in other parts of the State.

The rapid multiplication and growth of towns here, the swarming, mixed population from all the States of the Union, and from many of the nations of Europe, the new order of things since the adoption of the new Constitution, the determination of the people not to sacrifice the substantial interests of the State to party politics, but to unite, as far as possible, in all great public enterprises, the eagerness of intelligent men of all parties to have wise legislation in regard to Public Schools,—all indicate that the moment for vigorous action on the part of the friends of education has arrived. All eyes are now turned to the Legislature about to be convened. While I was in Texas, three different committees were appointed at public meetings, consisting of the most intelligent men, without distinction of party, to confer with the Legislature on the subject of a system of public instruction, after the example of the teachers of Georgia. I had interviews with the Governor-elect, with members of both branches of the Legislature, with the most influential men of Galveston and Houston, and with individuals from other places; and was earnestly requested by them to visit Austin at the meeting of the Legislature in April next. Until that time nothing can be done in Texas, but to make preparation for future action. I, therefore, postponed my visit to the distant cities in the interior, and addressed to them a Circular setting forth our plan of action and requesting

co-operation, as soon as the necessary laws shall have been passed.

In order to give a just view of what has been accomplished during the year, it will be necessary to take a general survey of our work in each of the twelve States which have received attention. We will begin with

### VIRGINIA.

In this State, ample constitutional provision has been made for Common School instruction. I met the Committee which had that subject in charge in the convention; and I perceive that those features of the original draft, which I pointed out as objectionable, are omitted. But, though the Constitution is adopted, no School Laws have been enacted under it. Consequently, no School Fund has been created; and no power has been given to the people to levy a School Tax. In order to co-operate with State authorities, it is, therefore, necessary to wait till such are established by law.

Certain cities, however, which have continued to act under their old charters, have felt the necessity of establishing Free Schools. Thus, the city of Petersburg took a decisive step in this direction. The Superintendent of Schools in that place wrote me, near the beginning of the last year: "The city has appropriated \$10,000 for the current expenses of its schools. Our schools now number 1,300 pupils. Our twenty-four teachers are faithful and conscientious in the discharge of their duties. The new machinery is rapidly adapting itself to the work. The schools are growing in usefulness and efficiency, and the people are liking the system better and better as they become better acquainted with it. We have had an unexpectedly large increase of scholars, mainly in the colored schools. This compelled us to make enlargements and alterations in our houses. Can you not let us have the \$2,000 at once? In justice to the city authorities, I ought to say that the \$10,000,



named above, is not all that the city has done for education. Beside placing in our hands school property of the value of \$15,000, it has expended in money this year, for repairs on the same, \$1,500; and for purchase and repairs of High School building \$6,000, making an actual outlay of \$17,500, — certainly a liberal expenditure, when all the circumstances are considered. The schools have opened with a still more cheering prospect the present year.” The same Superintendent says: “The cause of education has gained greatly here, not merely in the number of pupils taught, and the actual amount of instruction given, but in the favorable change in the sentiment of the community. Its increasing interest in the subject was manifested throughout the year. Our city is fully committed to a good Public School system, and this outside of and above all partisan, or political opinions or purposes. — Our city authorities have appropriated \$15,000 for our Public Schools for the ensuing year. In addition to this, they have authorized a committee to expend \$5,000 in the building of a new school-house.” It will be remembered that the present system of schools in Petersburg originated in a proposition from us to aid in their support.

A similar proposition, supported in its influence by the successful experiment made in Petersburg, led, about a year ago, to the adoption of the same system in the city of Richmond. At the first meeting of the Board of Education, appointed by the City Council in July last, “it was determined to make provision for opening the schools on the 1st of October next with about three thousand scholars, the number which it is believed will apply for admission at that time. The colored and white schools will be kept entirely separate. About sixty teachers will be employed, which will give an average of fifty pupils to each teacher. The Council will be asked to appropriate at present only \$15,000, which, with the sum of \$15,000 from the Educational Societies now sustaining schools in this city, it is believed will be sufficient for the education of three thousand



children. As the number of applicants increases, additional appropriations will be asked from the Council. The Board resolved that the grade of instruction should be equal to the private schools of the city, so that the parents of all classes might be induced to enter their children. None but well-qualified teachers of unexceptional moral character will be employed." I immediately renewed my proposition to the Mayor, in the following words: "I am gratified at the action recently taken by the Board of Education of Richmond in establishing Public Free Schools. If that Board will carry out its plan, and provide the means of education for all the children of the city for one year, with suitable schools, teachers, and other appointments, the Trustees of the Peabody Education Fund will contribute for that purpose the sum of \$2,000." I received the following reply from the Superintendent of Schools: "I am directed by vote of the Board of Education of this city to accept in their name your generous offer with expressions of gratitude and thanks for the same. It will be the endeavor of the Board to make our schools, in every way, worthy of your approval and aid." To the Normal School of Richmond, we pay \$1,000 for the training of twenty pupils, pledged to teach in the Public Schools. The Superintendent informs me that all the conditions, upon which this aid was promised, are fulfilled, and that "the graduating class of last year are nearly all engaged as teachers in the Public Schools of the city. We turned out our first class just in time for the new school system." To the colored Normal and High School of Richmond, assistance is given to the amount of \$300.

After a careful examination of the character of the colored Normal and Industrial School, at Hampton, an arrangement has been made for the training of sixteen Normal pupils, selected from the whole number, at an expense of \$50 for each.

As early as February, 1868, I offered to pay to the School Commissioners of the city of Portsmouth \$1,000, if they would revive their Public Schools; and to add \$500, if the city would

raise \$3,000 for their support. They accepted the former offer for the first year ; but, last September, they informed me that \$3,000 had been raised with the expectation of receiving \$1,500 from us for the second year. The promise was accordingly renewed. No better proof can be desired of the tendency of our method of graduating the amount bestowed from our Fund by the amount contributed by the people.

The citizens of Manassas represented that, with a contribution from us of \$300, they would carry on schools for 150 or 175 pupils in their town. The offer was accepted.

After some correspondence with a gentleman of Winchester, I was informed, in February last, that the City Council would immediately appropriate \$500 and open two schools, one for white and one for colored children ; and, in May next, will levy a tax of \$3,000, and open schools for all the children of the city. I replied : “ When your schools are actually opened for the whole population, we will contribute, at the rate of \$1,000 a year, towards their support.”

To the Rev. Dr. Broaddus, who is engaged in collecting funds for the education of orphan children in various schools of the State, which have agreed to receive them at a charge of only \$10 a year for tuition, we pay that amount for 30 pupils, on condition that only those pupils be selected who propose to become teachers.

The plan adopted last year of aiding colored schools in the State, at the rate of \$4,000 a year, and placing them under the supervision of the Government Superintendent, has been continued the present year. The considerations in favor of this measure remain the same as they were last year. The sum of \$200 was paid towards the support of the “ Educational Journal of Virginia.”

#### NORTH CAROLINA.

During the past year I have been unable to effect any thing in connection with the new State system of education. The



Superintendent of public instruction, in reply to my inquiries, said, in a letter of August 6, 1869: "I am arranging, as rapidly as possible, for the opening of the Public Schools. In some places, Public Schools can, and, I think, will be opened in October; in *many* places, by January 1, 1870. The funds to support schools must be collected. By the 1st of November, the taxes will be paid in. There are many school-houses to be built, and probably many townships will not be supplied until the next school-year. The State Fund will not exceed \$300,000. There are about 750,000 children to be provided for. Consequently, the schools in many cities and towns can be materially aided by your contributions. If the State authorities could be notified that, for Public Schools, a certain sum can be received from your Fund, as a supplement to the State allowance, I have no doubt that it would be a stimulant throughout the State, and result in multiplying the number of schools and in lengthening the time for which they were kept."

In another letter, a month later, he says: "My impression is, that it will be wise for you to decline to make appropriations for schools until the townships have established the Free Public Schools required by law, or established as many schools as the public funds will allow. When this is done, and you are certified as to the fact, and the number of pupils in attendance, and the amount of public money raised by each school, you can come to our aid with more satisfaction to yourself and more benefit to us."

Having learned that the city of Wilmington has not yet provided by tax for Public Schools; and that the Free Schools, maintained by the voluntary contribution of more than \$7,000 last year, are continued and are prosperous; and this representation of the School Committee being supported by the testimony of men of the highest official position in the city, I consented, after several months of delay and inquiry, to renew the appropriation of the last year, which was \$1,500.

In Newbern, there are nearly 1,000 white children, who



should be in school, not half of whom attend any school. At the request of the citizens, I renewed the offer made to the City Council, and accepted, but not carried out, in 1868, to the effect that we would pay the sum of \$1,000, if the city government will provide suitable means of education for all the white children not now in school.

I received, soon after, a copy of the following resolution: "*Resolved*, That, on the first Monday in October, the Newbern Academy shall be opened in accordance with a contract with the Agent of the Peabody Fund as a Free Public School, to which all white children, between the ages of 6 and 21 years, shall be entitled to admission."

The Mayor of Newport wrote me, "There are more than 100 white children in this town and its immediate vicinity, and we are anxious to have them go to school the coming autumn and winter." I replied: "If the proper School Officers will maintain a Public Free School under the law by tax, or otherwise, for all the white children of Newport for a period of nine months, we will pay \$300 towards the expense of the same." A second letter informed me that the necessary amount had been raised, and that a school had been opened with an attendance of 120, to be continued nine months.

Application was made for assistance in maintaining a Charity School in Charlotte. I represented the disadvantages of adopting that mode of assistance. In a second communication, the writer said: "The information given is very satisfactory, and presents the matter in a much better light than we anticipated." After replying, "Your State tax requires every town to maintain Public Schools four months; why can you not avail yourselves of that law, and thus avoid the evil of having two kinds of schools for the same purpose?" I added, "If you can thus make yours a Public Free School for about ten months, we can aid you to the amount of \$300 for 100 pupils, or \$600 for 200."

The Little River Academy, made free in all the common

English studies, received \$300 from the Peabody Education Fund last year, and has been encouraged to expect the same the present year. The Report states: "We have had quite a successful school. It has fortunately broken down the barriers of caste, and has united the entire community in one prosperous and efficient school. It has certainly accomplished all its beneficent patron could hope for with us."

In a more recent letter, it is added: "We expect our Academy to commence in September, and we are depending on your assistance. We hold ourselves bound by the same regulations as before; namely, that 125 children and youths adopt the Primary Department as their Common School."

An arrangement, like the two foregoing, has also been made with the town of Smithville.

For Hillsboro', the sum of \$500 has been appropriated, and placed at the discretion of Governor Graham, as the last year.

I have renewed our offer to the town of Salisbury, where the schools had been suspended; and have agreed to give \$300 to the people of Thomasville in aid of a school of not less than 100 pupils, and have done the same to other towns which have the subject under consideration.

With Raleigh, and some other towns, the attempts made to induce them to provide Public Schools have not yet been successful.

After making particular inquiry, I was satisfied that the time had not yet arrived to change our plan for aiding the colored population, substituting State Schools for the Government Schools. This change may, perhaps, be made after another year. In this opinion, the Superintendents of both departments of instruction concur.



## SOUTH CAROLINA.

The legal condition of the schools of the State is not very unlike that of the schools of North Carolina. There are not yet, so far as I am informed, any schools in operation under the new law. With the exception of the city of Charleston, which levies taxes in its municipal capacity, I have not been able to find any town that could support schools otherwise than by voluntary contribution. To the authorities of the city of Charleston, I intimated our willingness to continue our aid, if it would contribute materially to the success of their schools. The Secretary of the Board replied: "In consequence of our financial embarrassments, we were obliged to suspend the exercises of our Saturday Normal School last season; and our only prospect for renewing them now lies in the friendly consideration which, I trust, we shall receive at your hands. If you can furnish us with the amount named in your letter (\$1,000), I propose, at once, to reinstate this school, so much needed by our teachers, and to enlarge considerably its sphere of operations, providing, at the same time, a more practical course of instruction than we have yet been able to obtain." The amount, above named, was promised October 22d, on condition that the plan proposed be carried into execution. On the 6th day of November, the first session of said school was held, and in the letter conveying this information, it is said: "The prompt action of our Board in this matter will, I trust, be regarded as an evidence of our appreciation of the liberality of the Trustees of the Peabody Fund. Much of the success of our schools, the past two years, has been due to the generous and timely assistance you have so freely rendered us."

To Greenville, the sum of \$1,000 was given, last year, to aid in the education of 500 children, the citizens contributing \$2,500 to make the schools free in all the common English



studies. The Chairman of the Committee wrote me: "The schools have been a benefit to our community, and I hope will tend to correct the prejudices and misapprehensions, which have prevailed in the regions around us, as to the working of a public school system. Some of the apprehensions, which even I had indulged, have been dissipated by the practical working of the scheme. Mr. Peabody's name has become a household word in Greenville; for the people, of their own accord, call the schools established by the aid of his Fund, the 'Peabody Schools.'" In a letter of a later date, October 30, 1869, the same writer says: "The citizens have enlarged their contribution to about \$4,500, and increased the number of instructors to seven. They are all overburdened, and we ought now to add another teacher in the male department, at a cost of \$500, but have not the means." In view of these circumstances, I ventured to add to the former allowance a special donation of \$500, intimating a doubt, however, whether we should be able to do the same the next year.

Columbia is still in a state of pecuniary distress; and the Chairman of the "Peabody School Committee" appeals to us for aid, saying: "The assistance already given has been a great blessing to our people, and the Committee hope very much that the appropriation may be continued." The appropriation of \$2,000 was accordingly renewed on the same conditions as before.

In Pine Ridge, the Free School, with an attendance of 100 pupils, which was maintained, last year, by the voluntary contributions of the people, aided by \$300 from the Peabody Fund, is continued in the same way the present year. The Committee say: "Had it not been for your generous aid, the Peabody Pine Ridge Academy would not have been in existence."

From Abbeville, I received an application for aid, indorsed by Governor Aiken in the following words: "You would really oblige me by giving your attention to this application. I think

the petition ought to be granted as coming within your rule." The sum of \$300 was accordingly promised.

At the earnest solicitation of various friends, \$600 was promised to two schools in Beaufort, on condition that they give the means of education to all the children of the town.

The sum of \$100 is given in the same way for the benefit of the children of Hodge's Depot.

The efforts made and repeated, in Sumter and several other towns of the State, have not yet been successful. It was found impossible to maintain schools in these places, except chiefly at our expense, which would soon exhaust our income.

#### GEORGIA.

I have already spoken of the preparations made for the passage of a law establishing Common Schools in this State. The larger cities are not all obliged to wait for such a law.

From the Board of Education in Savannah, I received information that they had acted on the impression that they should receive from us, for the present year, the same amount that they received last year; and that they had extended their schools, having established two High Schools and two Intermediate Schools, and greatly improved the condition of all. I wrote in reply: "There are so many cities and towns in the South that have received no aid from our Fund, that I feel obliged to resort to rotation. In order not to make the change too sudden, I propose to make an allowance of \$1,000 (instead of \$1,500) the current year to the schools of your city. I do not mean by this that the withdrawal next year will be final. That is left an open question."

The President of the School Board of Columbus says: "Our success in introducing this system has exceeded our expectations, and it has become very popular with our citizens. The Report of the Superintendent shows the number of scholars to



have been over 650. The examinations were well sustained. I have never witnessed better manifestations of advancement upon any similar occasion. We have had twelve teachers during the whole session. We are compelled to build two rooms more for the female department, which will make one additional teacher necessary. I had hoped, when I last wrote you, that we were advanced beyond the need of aid from our noble Benefactor. But the funds of the State for school purposes are locked for the present. If possible, come to our rescue this once, and you will have built a monument to Mr. Peabody's name in the city of Columbus which will last while the city endures." Aid was promised to the amount of \$1,500. It was \$2,000 last year.

About two years ago, I endeavored to induce the Mayor and Council of Atlanta to establish Free Schools for all the children of the city. They were deterred from taking action by the reluctance of the people to submit to the taxation necessary for that purpose. There were then sixty private schools in the city, and many persons were more or less interested in their success. But as a large proportion of the people were unable to pay the high rates of tuition, and as others found the education of their children to be more and more expensive, there was a growing disposition among the common people to second the views of the Mayor, and to accept the proposition offering aid from your Fund. The City Government was induced, at length, to appoint a Committee to examine the whole subject, and to report the result of their investigations. This Committee, after a very extensive correspondence, and an examination of many systems, presented an elaborate Report full of information and valuable suggestions, the publication of which convinced the people that they were sacrificing their dearest interests in postponing the establishment of Public Free Schools. The result was, that the entire plan presented by the Committee was unanimously adopted by the City Council.

Thus the offer of \$2,000 from our Fund was the occasion, if not the cause, of a decision to expend not less than \$50,000 in the erection of school-houses, beside the amount necessary for carrying on the schools. This decisive step, taken in the Capital of the State, will, no doubt, have a most beneficial influence on other cities and towns in Georgia. There is now a good Normal School in Atlanta for colored teachers. A class of nearly forty was formed as early as last year, many of whom have been teaching the past summer. A new building, costing over \$20,000, has just been completed, and the Normal Class has been transferred to it. This is a well-organized professional school, supplied with competent teachers. Finding the arrangement for instruction here perfectly satisfactory, I made provision for ten pupils, allowing \$50 to each. They are to be carefully selected, preference being given to those who are in the last year of their course, and who, by their experience, maturity, and scholarship, shall be qualified, at the end of the year, to become efficient teachers.

At Tunnel Hill, an Educational meeting of the citizens was held in November last, to ascertain whether they were ready to comply with the conditions, which they had learned from the Opelika paper, were proposed for aiding that city from the Peabody Fund. A Committee, appointed at that meeting, report that there are 300 white children within a radius of two miles and a half, of whom one-half are now unable to attend school, on account of the expense ; and they represent that there is a willingness on the part of the people to pay, according to their ability, for the support of a Free School. The usual amount of assistance in such cases has been promised. No final action has yet been reported.

To the city of Augusta, where a want of concert is still the chief defect of the schools, the offer of \$1,000 was renewed, on condition of their being properly graded, and placed under a Superintendent. These terms have not yet been complied



with. The appropriation, at the rate of \$4,000 a year, for colored schools, was made in the same way as for the colored schools of Virginia and North Carolina.

## FLORIDA.

This State has a very good system of Public Schools established by law; but its funds are, at present, inadequate to supply the wants of the people. The several counties are required to maintain schools three months in the year, or lose their share of the School Fund. To do this, before receiving any State aid, is, in the present impoverished condition of the people, attended with some difficulty. The Superintendent of Public Schools, in a recent letter, says: "I am constantly visiting the different counties, organizing our county Boards of Instruction who have plenary powers. The best spirit prevails."

In Lake City there was a "Peabody School" kept the last year, with an attendance of nearly 200. I suggested to the Committee that it was desirable to bring the school into connection with the State system of common schools, in order to obtain a share of the public money and to avoid the liability of having a double provision for free schools in the same town. They replied that they had taken my suggestion, and made application for State aid; but found that the amount to which Lake City was entitled was only \$100, and that they would therefore raise by subscription the amount necessary to keep the school in operation. The appropriation of \$650 is continued, the same as last year.

The attempt to open free schools in Tallahassee failed at first. Last summer the effort was renewed in connection with the West Florida Seminary; and the same offer of \$1,000 on our part, which had been made before, was repeated. In October last, the President of the Board of Trustees wrote me:

“ I am happy to inform you that the Trustees have accepted your liberal offer, and have started a free public school, open to all the children of both sexes. We have already employed six teachers. On account of the increased number of pupils, we have found it necessary to make additional provisions in the way of rooms and furniture, which will make our expenses for the present year amount to nearly \$7,000.”

Obstacles similar to those which existed in Tallahassee prevented the organization of free schools in St. Augustine last year. By special request of the Committee, I renewed the offer of \$1,000 made the previous year, which was gratefully accepted. The Chairman of the Committee writes: “ You will be pleased to hear that I have engaged the services of a very competent teacher for the ‘ Peabody School ’ of St. Augustine. I hope and trust we shall have a first-rate school, — one that shall exert a favorable influence in the State.”

From Monticello I received a Report stating that the schools of last year, which closed in July, were successful, and that, at a meeting of the citizens, the Board of Managers were re-elected, and requested to continue the schools as heretofore. A subscription has been taken; and the Board was directed to continue the schools, if they could have the continuation of our contribution of \$700. Owing to the failure of the cotton crop for three successive years, the people are much reduced, and need help more than ever. The salaries of the teachers last year amounted to \$7,700. The request of the Managers for an appropriation of \$700 for the next year was granted.

The Mayor of Appalachicola informed me that the City Council afforded free instruction last year to all the children of the city. There is a strong desire manifested that the school be reopened, and he recommends that the charge of the school be transferred from the City Council to the Board of Instruction appointed by the State. The appropriation of \$500 from our fund was renewed to be administered by the City Council,



or the County Board, as should appear most advisable. The Mayor is also County Superintendent of Schools.

For a colored school of 100 pupils in the same place, \$200 have been promised; the school to be under the superintendence of the public school authorities.

The citizens of Jacksonville, after considerable delay, fulfilled their purpose, and formed an excellent plan for organizing free schools for the city. To their second application for aid, I replied: "I am gratified with what you and your friends are doing for education, and renew my offer of \$1,000, and accept the plan reported by you."

The town of Quincy has again applied for aid, having neglected the overture made nearly two years ago. The County Superintendent informed me that \$4,000 had been raised by tax for the year 1869. The schools for the white and colored children are separate, and are under district boards of trustees. "Our school here in Quincy," he adds, "has three teachers, one in the primary, and two in the secondary department, and needs help more than any in the county." Assistance to the amount of \$450 was promised for a public school of 150 pupils for a period of ten months.

To the State Superintendent, who inquired what aid could be given to Florida, and on what conditions it could be obtained, I wrote: "Our policy is to aid and encourage free public schools in those towns which are central and influential. We wish to have good models, which shall stimulate other towns, and teach by example. We cannot give charitable aid to all the feeble rural districts; our Fund would be insufficient for that. The amount divided among so many would be very insignificant, — hardly worth asking for. I wish all the towns which we assist to come into the State system of common schools, if possible."

## ALABAMA.

The State Superintendent says: "Our fund is much smaller than we could desire. — Yet we have had for the current school-year, just closed September 30th, the very handsome sum of \$525,500. With this, in the midst of great opposition to our Government, we have succeeded in conciliating our people in a great measure, and have had in successful operation about 4,000 schools. Our system, when perfected, is an admirable one. The people are beginning to understand and see the good results. Two of our towns or cities, Mobile and Selma, have special local school-laws under our State Board of Education. These cities carry on their schools for nine months. We have only been able to carry on our free public schools in the townships (State School Districts) from four to five months. We are very confident that in two more years, at furthest, our State Fund, from all sources as provided in our new Constitution, will reach the sum of \$700,000, when we shall be able to carry on our schools for six months. Our schools are perfectly free for all to attend, the whites in their schools, and the colored in theirs." Of the 336,000 children of the State, 160,000 are in the public schools.

The Constitution provides that "the common schools, and other educational institutions of the State, shall be under the management of a Board of Education, consisting of a Superintendent of Public Instruction, and two members from each Congressional District, to be elected at the same time and in the same manner as the members of Congress." The Superintendent is elected in the same manner and for the same term (two years) as the Governor of the State. The members of the Board hold their office for a term of four years. This Board exercises full legislative powers in reference to the educational institutions of the State. The Constitution makes



it "the duty of the Board to establish throughout the State, in each township, or other school district which it may have created, one or more schools at which all the children of the State, between the ages of five and twenty-one years, may attend free of charge."

The Board of Education has passed an Act requiring that in each county a County Superintendent be chosen at the general election, and that in each township three Trustees be elected for a period of two years, to whom shall be committed the management of the schools, subject to the supervision of the County Superintendent, and that the State Superintendent distribute annually the income of the School Fund among the several counties, according to the number of children in each.

Upon this system of public instruction we will only remark, that it would seem necessary to enact some special law for the cities and larger towns, as is done in Arkansas, authorizing them to levy a local tax for the support of schools during the whole year. Otherwise the people, who wish to give their children a thorough education, will send them to private schools, in preference to public schools of so brief a duration as four, five, or six months, and in districts too small for graded schools.

The School Commissioners of Mobile addressed to me, September 14th, 1869, the following communication: "Last year you were kind enough to make our schools a donation of \$2,000 upon terms which were complied with. More than half the pupils under instruction in the schools were free. All the scholars of the primary grade, which embraced the entire number of colored children, were taught free of charge for tuition. It is the wish of the Board to take another step in advance, and make the intermediate grade free. But we shall enter upon the next school year under unlooked-for embarrassments, though we shall take no step backwards." I replied, proposing to give \$2,000 for the ensuing year on condition that

the primary and intermediate schools be made free. The condition has been formally accepted by vote of the Board.

From a printed Report of the expenditures of the free schools of Selma the last year, it appears that the sum of \$10,705 was raised by subscription, instead of the \$4,000 to which the citizens stood pledged to us; and that 508 pupils were educated, costing about \$21 per pupil for the year; whereas the same number of pupils, educated at a cost of \$75 each, — the average rate of tuition paid before our free schools were opened, — would have cost \$38,000, thus, by the free school system, making a saving to the city of \$27,395; that the schools were organized on the graded system with a superintendent and ten teachers, and that the charge for tuition, which is very low, affected only the eighty-seven pupils who are in the academic department, pursuing higher studies. Being highly gratified with such results, and having a promise that none of the efforts made last year for the improvement of the schools shall be relaxed for the year to come, I readily gave assurances of an appropriation of \$2,000, the amount given last year.

In Girard, opposite the city of Columbus, in Georgia, there is a manufacturing population, having 1,248 children of suitable age to attend school. The share of that city in the public school fund last year was \$1,488, by means of which five schools with an attendance of 461 pupils were carried on for a few months. In order to bring all the children of the town into the schools, I have promised an appropriation of \$1,000 from the Fund intrusted to our care. The committee immediately procured a spacious building, and the schools are in successful operation. There can be no doubt that the example of Columbus has done much in awakening this interest in schools among the people of another State, separated from it only by the Chattahoochie River.

Last year a donation of \$400 was made to the public schools .



of Greensboro', containing 175 pupils. But there are 450 children in the place. The County Superintendent promises to provide instruction for all these, if he can depend on receiving \$1,000 at our hands. His proposition has been accepted, with the understanding that the schools be continued through the year. This County Superintendent remarks incidentally that, during the last year, he established thirty-four schools, thirteen of which were colored schools, with an aggregate attendance of 1,500 children.

In Huntsville and vicinity, I found the number of children to be about 2,000, three-fifths of whom are colored. There is a want of co-operation between the State officers and the city authorities. If the two districts of the city, which itself covers the confines of two townships, can be united as the people desire, or if a charter can be granted, giving the city power to provide for its own schools, after the example of a special law to that effect in Arkansas, there will be no difficulty, or hesitancy on the part of the people in accepting the following proposition, which was left with the parties concerned for their consideration ; viz. : "If the Trustees of the public schools of Huntsville, or the City Government, will appropriate \$7,000 for the support of said schools, with an attendance of not less than 500 white children, and of 700 colored, the Trustees of the Peabody Education Fund will pay \$1,000 for each class of schools, making the whole expenditure not less than \$9,000."

A similar proposition has been made to the city of Montgomery, which, it is believed, will be accepted.

To Opelika, at a meeting of the principal citizens, was proffered the sum of \$1,000, on certain specified conditions, and arrangements were made looking to the accomplishment of so desirable an object.

## TENNESSEE.

In the Annual Report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction just published, I find the following mention of our work in that State: "The manner in which the Fund is bestowed is quite as productive of good as the direct education of individuals. The aid already bestowed upon free schools, where the population is concentrated, has secured graded schools in such places as Knoxville, Cleveland, Chattanooga, Clarksville, and other localities, where schools of that quality would otherwise have been impossible. Not only more direct instrumentalities than was possible in any other way, but model systems of schools, so greatly needed, have, by the aid of the Fund, been maintained, thus exerting their indirect influence in shaping the notions and sentiments of these communities and of those under their influence towards the adoption of classified and graded schools." In another place, after quoting from the letter in which the conditions are stated on which our appropriations are made, he says: "It seems to me, the conditions imposed are based on principles as sound as the offer is generous. I feel, therefore, that we have special reason for gratitude to the gentlemen who are the almoners of this Fund, not only for the generous offer made, but for their wisdom in prompting us at once to adopt this better way (of graded schools) here at the outset in the reorganization of schools in Tennessee."

The number of children in Tennessee between the ages of six and twenty years is 418,709. For these, 3,903 free schools have opened their doors, with an actual attendance of 185,845 pupils.

As a detailed account of the schools of Tennessee aided by us was given in my Third Report, it will only be neces-



sary here to name the towns that receive assistance the present year, together with the amount to be paid to each. We give to

Lookout Mountain . . .	\$1,000	Chatata . . . . .	\$600
Fisk University . . . .	800	Nashville (suburbs) . . .	600
Clarksville . . . . .	1,500	Cog Hill . . . . .	450
Greenville . . . . .	1,000	Athens . . . . .	300
Jonesboro' . . . . .	1,000	Louisville . . . . .	300
Memphis . . . . .	1,000	Newbern . . . . .	300
Cleveland . . . . .	750	Zion's Hill . . . . .	300
Journal of Education . .	200		<hr/>
			\$9,900

#### WEST VIRGINIA.

Hon. W. R. White, late Superintendent of Public Schools, but now Principal of the State Normal School at Fairmont, says, in a letter dated July 23d, 1869: "I heartily concur in your views in regard to the educational enterprise in our State. I am of the opinion that first-rate teachers will do more than all other agencies in reconciling the people to their heavy taxes. These will not come from other States in numbers sufficient for the demand; and the compensation is so meagre, and the cost of education so great, that the home supply is necessarily small. I do not wish to suggest any change whatever in your plans. I read your letter to our Normal School Board, and they expressed a unanimous concurrence in your views."

The Schools of this State, receiving aid from our Fund, as well as those of Tennessee, were described, in part, in my last Report. It is unnecessary to repeat what was there said. The following is a list of towns that are assisted the present year:—

Parkersburg . . . . .	\$1,000	Huttonsville . . . . .	\$300
Fairmont . . . . .	1,000	Lubeck . . . . .	200
Moundsville . . . . .	1,000	Williamstown . . . . .	200
Clarksburg . . . . .	800	Claysville . . . . .	200
Charleston . . . . .	800	Fairmont Normal School .	500
Grafton . . . . .	800	Guyandotte „ „ .	500
Martinsburg . . . . .	800	Morganton „ „ .	500
Weston . . . . .	600	Harrison-County Teachers'	
Buckhannon . . . . .	600	Institute . . . . .	100
Evansville . . . . .	500	Upshur-County Teachers'	
Portland . . . . .	450	Institute . . . . .	100
Guyandotte . . . . .	300	School Journal . . . . .	100
Beverly . . . . .	300		
			<hr/>
			\$11,600

### MISSISSIPPI.

Owing to the unsettled condition of public affairs in this State during the past year, less has been accomplished in it than would otherwise have been done. To show the effect produced by our work, I will quote a passage from the printed Report of the "Peabody Public School of Summit:" "The high character which the School has acquired, and the unqualified approbation of the system of education adopted, leave but little doubt that the attendance the next session will reach from 200 to 300. The benefits and blessings of this school are not confined to this town or its neighborhood, but the desire for education which has been awakened in the public mind is disseminating itself widely over the land. From every section come up anxious inquiries as to the system that has been adopted, thus realizing the hope expressed by the Agent of the Peabody Fund, that this would be a radiating point to pour its light over the whole adjacent country."

The appropriations made in this State for the present year are as given below: to



Natchez . . . . .	\$2,000	Hazelhurst . . . . .	\$800
Summit . . . . .	1,500	Crystal Springs . . . . .	450
Brookhaven . . . . .	1,000	Biloxi . . . . .	400
		<hr/>	
		\$6,150	

The amount given to the town of Summit includes a special donation of \$500, to be deducted from the next year's appropriation. With other cities and towns, not given in this list, negotiations will probably be made soon. In Mississippi, as in several other States which have not received their full proportion of aid the present year, the people will be entitled to a more favorable consideration whenever they are in a condition to co-operate with us. Such adjustments being, in due time, made, both classes of States, those which have received more, and those that have received less than their share, will be benefited by the arrangement; for the good effected by such donations depends, not so much on the amount bestowed at the outset, as on the fitness of the occasion to arouse general activity on the part of the recipients.

#### ARKANSAS.

This State has made very considerable progress in its public schools since my visit there a little more than a year ago. The free school system is attracting unusual notice and meeting with much favor. The work of organizing districts and of erecting school-houses is going on successfully, and schools are established in almost every county. One of the Circuit Superintendents says, in a recent letter: "I do not think any part of the South outdoes my district in progress. There have been this year about 120 schools in operation in these five counties. There were never 30 before. — More than 6,000 children have enjoyed their benefits, of whom not more than 1,500 have ever

before been inside of a school-room. Every county town has quite a good school, and not a dozen settlements in this district of 300 miles by 60 will be without a public school of some kind. The schools of Helena are now organized under our new city School Act, and are exerting a large influence in the county in favor of our system."

A gentleman of Fort Smith writes me: "About a year ago, in an inspecting tour through our State, you visited this town, and met with very little encouragement on the part of the individuals whom you consulted in relation to the establishment of schools. Free schools have now been established here. Early in March, this city was organized as a separate school district in accordance with a late law 'for the better regulation of public schools in cities and towns,' by which graded schools are authorized under a Board of Directors." In a printed statement, it is said: "The Board of School Directors have the entire management of raising the revenue necessary to defray any expense to provide for the youth of the district, and it will be the endeavor of the Board, as soon as practicable, to have such a grade of schools here, that, so far from compelling our citizens to send their sons and daughters abroad in order to give them the benefits of a higher mental culture, this city will be the centre of educational facilities for a vast scope of country, as she is now for commercial purposes. The best criterion of the material prosperity and intellectual development of a place is found in its schools."

In a letter from one of the School Directors of Little Rock, it is said: "I have been instructed to correspond with you with reference to aid from the Peabody Fund. The public schools have been in operation here since the 1st of December last. They will open again on the 27th of September, 1869, and will continue at least nine months of the year. We have a superintendent and twenty-two teachers employed for the coming



term; and there will not be less than 1,600 pupils entered on the rolls during the term. As we had to start almost anew, having no school-houses, our expenses have been very heavy, and we are much in need of funds."

For an account of the plans entered into with this and various other towns of this State, I beg leave again to refer you to my last Report. The towns aided and the amounts contributed the present year are the following:—

Little Rock . . . . .	\$1,500	Jacksonport . . . . .	\$400
Fort Smith . . . . .	1,500	Batesville . . . . .	300
Helena . . . . .	1,000	Bentonville . . . . .	300
Fayetteville . . . . .	1,000	Clarksville . . . . .	300
Pine Bluff . . . . .	800	Dardanelle . . . . .	300
Van Buren . . . . .	800	Spring Valley . . . . .	300
Russellville . . . . .	500	Lisbon . . . . .	300
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		\$9,300	

#### LOUISIANA.

In submitting his recommendations for the school-year September, 1869—September, 1870, Hon. R. M. Lusher, our indefatigable local Agent, whose services are entirely gratuitous, remarks: "The distribution of \$11,900 herein suggested is made in conformity with the judicious and equitable plan set forth in your letter of July 20th, 1869. I would deem it a great favor to receive an early approval of the list, so that I may offer proper encouragement to the worthy teachers and active Trustees who have concurred with this agency in carrying out the enlightened views expressed in your letters of July 10th and August 28th, which have been widely published and warmly approved. Local Trustees have expressed the hope that Mr. Peabody, and his Trustees and the General Agent, have been apprised of the grateful appreciation of the aid afforded them in the maintenance, improvement, and greater usefulness of their schools."

The list of towns and of appropriations recommended by Mr. Lusher, and approved by your Agent, together with the amounts contributed by the respective towns, is here subjoined:

TOWNS.	APPROPRIATIONS.	LOCAL CONTRIBUTIONS.
Arcadia . . . . .	\$450	\$1,400
Bastrop . . . . .	500	1,500
Homer. . . . .	300	Data not yet received.
Shreveport . . . . .	1,000	" " " "
Pleasant Hill . . . . .	250	" " " "
Natchitoches . . . . .	450	" " " "
Alexandria . . . . .	500	" " " "
Plaquemine . . . . .	850	\$2,200
Donaldsonville. . . . .	300	Data not yet received.
Franklin . . . . .	500	\$1,300
Bayou Sara . . . . .	1,000	2,600
Clinton . . . . .	500	1,500
Baton Rouge . . . . .	1,000	2,300
Amite City . . . . .	600	2,000
Tangipahoa . . . . .	300	1,500
Greensburg . . . . .	300	1,400
Franklinton. . . . .	300	1,100
Eureka . . . . .	200	900
Algiers . . . . .	1,200	3,500
Gretna . . . . .	1,400	3,750
	<u>\$11,000</u>	<u>\$35,000</u>

List of Normal Schools and Normal Departments in Louisiana receiving aid, and of the amounts received from the Peabody Fund.

New-Orleans Normal School . . . . .	\$1,900
Plaquemine Normal Department . . . . .	480
Clinton " " . . . . .	480
Bastrop " " . . . . .	820
Mount Lebanon " " . . . . .	320
Monroe . . . . .	500
	<u>\$4,000</u>



Of this amount of \$15,900, \$5,900 are covered by last year's appropriation.

The aggregate of the appropriations thus far made in all the twelve States for the school-year September, 1869 — September, 1870, is about \$85,000.

The number of books distributed amounts in all to 55,706.

In closing this Report, I feel it due both to the dead and the living to record the grief everywhere expressed by the people of the South when the intelligence reached them that their great Benefactor had passed away. Public meetings were held, and resolutions adopted in honor of his memory, and in testimony of gratitude for his benefactions, and of sorrow for his death. School Boards ordered that the day of his obsequies on this continent be observed by the schools; that every child contribute a twig to the garlands that were to be woven and suspended around his name on the walls of the school-rooms, and that superintendents and teachers give an account of the life and character of their Benefactor, and hold up his example for imitation by the children.

It was a special cause of grief to the great mass of the people that they were not permitted to see the man whom they loved and revered above all others; and that he did not live to behold the ripe fruit of his unexampled bounty, and to receive the gratitude and homage which they were eager to show him.

A due tribute to the memory of Mr. Peabody himself cannot be given in this place. How much your Agent owes to his friendship, and to his personal influence in preparing the way for efficient action in your behalf, need scarcely be suggested. His character is universally known and appreciated. His life is before the world. His greatest happiness appeared to be in the consciousness that he was doing what was most pleasing to his Maker. Next to this, was the pleasure of doing good to

others. Gratitude to God, to whose signal goodness he referred all his prosperity ; and love to men, for whom, all of whom, he cherished a fraternal regard beyond all modern example,—these two sentiments, blended into one, seemed to be the spring of all his action.

In the distribution of the Fund committed to your care, he desired that it should be made to reach the greatest number of children consistent with a system of concentrated and vigorous efforts.

It must be gratifying to those who are charged with the duty of distributing the income of this Fund to be assured that, not only all that they have done, but all they have forborne to do, accords perfectly with the judgment and wishes of the donor as expressed when treading on the verge of the grave.

B. SEARS,  
*General Agent.*

STAUNTON, VA., January 19th, 1870.

On motion of Governor GRAHAM, and after remarks by Bishop McILVAINE, Governor CLIFFORD, and Mr. EATON, expressing their great gratification therewith, the Report was unanimously accepted, and ordered to be printed for distribution, under the superintendence and at the discretion of the General Agent.

*Voted* to adjourn, to meet at ten o'clock the next morning.



## PROCEEDINGS OF THE THIRD DAY.

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FEBRUARY 17, 1870.

THE Board met at ten o'clock, A.M. Present: Messrs. CLIFFORD, EATON, FARRAGUT, GRAHAM, MACALESTER, MCILVAINE, RIGGS, RUSSELL, WINTHROP, WETMORE, and Dr. SEARS, the General Agent.

The CHAIRMAN (the Hon. Mr. Winthrop) presiding, Governor CLIFFORD presented and moved the following Resolution, which was adopted:—

*Resolved*, That in collecting the interest-coupons upon the securities belonging to the Trust, if payment thereof in specie should be refused, the Treasurer be authorized to receive the same, as heretofore, in currency,—under protest, however, that the same are payable in specie, in order to preserve the right of a future claim to the difference between specie and currency,—at the respective times when such coupons are due and payable.

On motion of Governor CLIFFORD, it was

*Voted*, That the vote passed at the last Annual Meeting, respecting the time and place of the Annual Meetings of the Board, be repealed; and that the same be here-

after held on the third Wednesday of February, in the city of New York, except when otherwise ordered.

On motion of Mr. MACALESTER, it was

*Voted*, That the next Annual Meeting be held in the city of Philadelphia.

It was further

*Resolved*, That it is expedient that a special meeting of the Trustees be held at Memphis, Tennessee, during the fourth week of October next; and that the same be notified by the Chairman or Secretary, unless otherwise determined in the mean time.

On motion of Mr. MACALESTER, it was

*Voted*, That the meeting be dissolved.

GEORGE PEABODY RUSSELL,

*Secretary.*



